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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:)	Examiner: Unknown
ELLIOTT, Nicholas P., et al.)	
)	Art Unit: Unknown
Serial No.: Unknown)	
)	
Filed: herewith)	
)	
For: VERIFICATION METHOD)	
)	
Date of Last Office Action:)	
Not Applicable)	
)	
Attorney Docket No.:)	
UDL 2 0011)	

Cleveland, Ohio 44114
April 17, 2001

Assistant Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please enter the following amendments to the claims that are presented in the ANNEXES to the International Preliminary Examination Report Form (PCT/IPEA/409) that is being submitted concurrently herewith.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 13, and 14 without prejudice to the subject matter recited therein. The claims are being amended for the sole purpose of removing the multiple claim dependencies thus eliminating the filing fee surcharge that would otherwise have been necessary had the claims not been amended.

3. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the public data (8) includes a batch number.

4. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the public data (8) includes date information.

5. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the private data (12) includes an item number.

6. (Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said public data (8) and said security code (10) is incorporated into the design printed onto the goods as reversed out characters, blends or tints.

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein the public data (8) includes date information.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 7, wherein said public data (8) and said security code (10) is incorporated into the design printed onto the goods as reversed out characters, blends or tints.

13. (Amended) Goods according to claim 11, wherein the public data (8) includes date information.

14. (Amended) Goods according to claim 11, wherein said public data (8) and said security code (10) is incorporated into the design printed onto the goods as reversed out characters, blends or tints.